

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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August 18, 2008

To:

Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D, Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

STATUS REPORT - NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM'S PLANS TO TRANSFER COUNTY HISTORIC AUTOMOBILE COLLECTION AND ASSESSMENT OF VEHICLES PRIOR TO ANY DISPOSITION

On November 6, 2007, your Board approved the termination of the County Collections Agreement with the Petersen Automotive Museum Foundation and ordered the Chief Executive Officer to report back to the Board on the Natural History Museum's (NHM) plans to assess the County-owned historic automotive vehicles before any cars are sold, or are proposed to be sold. Since that date, NHM has proceeded with moving the County Collection vehicles to new County-leased space. New loan agreements have been signed for the seven vehicles that will remain at the Petersen Automotive Museum.

At this time, all of the County vehicles, except two have been successfully transferred to the new space. The two vehicles that remain at the Petersen were too tall to fit into the fumigation tent and, therefore, will remain in de-bugging quarantine at the Petersen for six-months. In addition to the two vehicles in quarantine, the Petersen requested a few vehicles remain on exhibit, and new short-term leases have been signed for those vehicles.

Upon completing the conservation of vehicles now in their possession that will be included in upcoming exhibits, NHM staff will begin a comprehensive assessment of the entire Collection, including the vehicles on short-term loan to the Petersen. When complete, that assessment will be presented to your Board. The next status report will be provided within 90 days.

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If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the status report, please contact me or your staff may contact Robert Moran at (213) 974-1130, or via email at rmoran@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:LS DSP:RTM:os

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors County Counsel Natural History Museum